

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **SJR 698**

January 27, 2004

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Proposes to amend Article II, Section 3 and Article VII, Section 5, of the Tennessee Constitution relative to elections. This resolution would change all general elections held for all county and judicial offices from August to November and extends the term of office of the House Representatives from two to four years.

The resolution shall be referred to the 104<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and this resolution proposing such amendment be published in accordance with Article XI, Section 3, of the Constitution of Tennessee.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$20,000 One-Time**

**Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures - \$3,500,000 Every Two Years**

Assumes a one-time cost of \$20,000 to the Secretary of State to publish notice of the proposed amendment in certain newspapers as required by this resolution. The publication would occur in the Spring of 2004.

Although not every county has a May primary election, the political parties have the ability to call a May primary election if they choose to do so. This resolution makes the May primary obsolete. The elections would be held with the regular August election. Therefore, it is estimated that there would be potential savings to local governments of up to \$3,500,000 per election cycle if counties no longer held May primary elections.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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